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For Immediate Release

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## Maricopa County Public Health & Metrocenter Mall host FREE Emergency Preparedness Expo on Sep. 26<sup>th</sup>

PHOENIX (September 23, 2015) – Maricopa County Department of Public Health's Office of Preparedness and Response, in partnership with Metrocenter Mall and first responders, will celebrate National Preparedness Month with a multicultural emergency preparedness expo on Saturday, Sept. 26th. This year's theme *Don't Wait. Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today / No Se Espere, Comuniquese. iHaga Su Plan de Emergencia Hoy!* reminds the community about the importance of personal preparedness.

"This is a great opportunity for folks to come out and learn from a variety of local preparedness experts and community organizations about how to better prepare themselves and their families for any type of emergency — large or small," said Dr. Bob England, Maricopa County Public Health Director. "We appreciate all of the hard work our community partners have done to support this event."

More than a dozen agencies will be featured at this year's Expo, offering activities and services related to first aid, evacuation planning, caring for pets in a disaster, how to deal with stress during emergencies, developing a Living Will, how to become an organ & tissue donor, and much more. Phoenix Fire Department will have a smoke house where children and adults can practice real-life safety and evacuation skills in case of smoke or fire. This year, Phoenix Fire also will be on hand to provide free car seat checks. Expo visitors will also have the opportunity to receive free first aid kits, bike helmets, smoke detectors, car seats and the uninsured can get FREE flu and Tdap immunizations. Metrocenter will also be a site drop-off location for National Prescription Drug Take-Back day. Residents can return their unwanted, unneeded, or expired prescription drugs for safe disposal.

## WHEN

Saturday, September 26, 2015 10am – 1pm

WHO (media availability 11:30-noon)

Dr. Bob England, Maricopa County Public Health Director Embassador Roberto Rodriguez Hernandez, Consulado de México in Phoenix Phoenix City Councilwoman Thelda Williams, District 1

## **WHERE**

Metrocenter Mall by Sears, 9617 N. Metro Parkway W., Phoenix, AZ 85051

## More information

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